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comprises  $\geq$  95% by weight of (meth)acrylic acid.

and

5. (Amended) A process as claimed in claim 1 which is a rectification, extraction or absorption ~~process~~<sup>processes</sup>

6. (Amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are either all methyl or all ethyl.

7. (Amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein X is H.

8. (Amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, which is carried out at from 100 to

9. (Amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, which is carried out at  $\leq 100$  mbar.

12. (Amended) A mixture as claimed in claim 10, wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are

either all methyl or all ethyl.

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